



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913
PH (517) 373.7350 | FAX (517) 373.9228
www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/patterson/

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, April 3, 2003

Contact: Kristin Rieber
Toll Free: (866) 262-7307

Patterson: Fuel Cell Concurrent Resolution Passed by Senate Technology and Energy Committee

Senate Concurrent Resolution 14 seeks federal funding for fuel cell technology research

LANSING – The Senate Technology and Energy Committee passed a concurrent resolution this week to urge President George W. Bush and the Congress of the United States to fund additional research projects in Michigan to advance fuel cell technology, Senator Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, announced.

“The benefits of fuel cell technology, as short term and long - term solutions to the economic and environmental challenges we face, are just beginning to be fully explored. Michigan possesses the resources, workers, and researchers necessary to make us a leader in advancing the nation’s technology,” Patterson said. “I am optimistic that we will receive the funding we are requesting from the federal government. As a priority of the President of the United States, Michigan should be out front in advancing fuel cell technology.”

SCR 14 recognizes that President Bush identified fuel cell research in his State of the Union address as a national priority. The resolution also recognizes the important role Michigan is ready to play in advancing fuel cell technology.

The concurrent resolution was unanimously passed by the committee. SCR 14 will now be considered by the full Senate.

As chair of the Senate Technology and Energy Committee, Patterson held three extensive hearings on fuel cell technology. Testimony was offered by the following: Phillip Chizek of Ford Motor Company, Neil Schilke of General Motors, Legislative Service Bureau Science and Technology Division, Professors Dennis Assanis and Johannes Schwank of the University of Michigan, Professors Fred Sitkins and James Vandepolder of Western Michigan University, Dr. K. Joel Berry of Kettering University, and Mark Sperry, Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer of Plug Power, Inc.